THE

Theatrical Observer.

AND

Daily Bills of the Play.

"Nothing extenuate nor set down aught in malice."

No. 89. *Friday, Feb.* 15, 1822. *Price* 1*d.*

COVENT GARDEN.

THIS House was last night crowded: and from the approbation bestowed upon the novel attraction of the evening—the Opera of *Montrose; or, the Children of the Mist*, we anticipate frequent renewals. It is scarcely necessary to apprise our readers that the piece was selected from Sir Walter Scott's novel of "*The Legend of Montrose*," the latter having been dramatised with considerable truth, in respect to the preservation of the story, characters, and incidents, by *Mr. Pococke*, the author of Rob Roy, and many other pieces of celebrity. The play commences from that part of the novel, in which the Highland Chieftains attached to the Royal cause, assemble at the House of Angus Macauley, and there accept as a leader the Earl of Montrose; who in disguise, has accompanied Monteith and Major Dalgetty, for the purpose of ascertaining the disposition of the Clans. While thus assembled, Sir Duncan Campbell, a deputy for the Marquis of Argyl, the leader of the opposite party, arrives, and demands an explanation of this gathering of the Highland forces. Major Dalgatty is dispatched by Montrose, with a reply to Argyl, who seizes the messenger and commits him to a dungeon, in which is confined Ranald of the Mist: they are here visited by Argyl in disguise, who in endeavouring to gain to his party the Major, incautiously exposes his own rank. The knowledge of this Dalgetty avails himself of, and with his fellow prisoner, after securing their means of escape; bind the Marquis and leave his Castle. Ranald conducts his companion to his retreat and clan; when they are pursued by a party of Campbells, who are ultimately defeated. Dalgetty with his friend, reaches Montrose, who is introduced to the latter: an engagement takes place between the two forces, in which Argyl's are defeated, though in the engagement Ranald stabs Sir Duncan Campbell, whose Castle he had some years previous destroyed, and with it all its inmates, save a babe, afterwards taken by Allen Macauley, who revenged a feud upon the children, but by the interposition of Monteith, saved the infant: she is bred in her preserver's house as Annot Lyle though Ranald in his dying moments declares her relationship to Sir Duncan Campbell, and she is ultimately married to Monteith, whose life Allan Macauley in jealousy has attempted. We felt it

our duty to give this brief outline, tho we do not doubt but that the generality of our readers would have forgiven our neglect of it. The *new* scenery is extremely beautiful. That in which the mist rises from the hills, Loch Fine, and Loch Lochy, are particularly worthy of approbation. Though we cannot minutely enter into criticism, it would be unjust not to name Mr. Liston's Dalgetty, which was admirable. If we find fault with the piece, it is with the first act, which is an uninteresting (though we admit *necessary*) development of characters before well known. The Scotch airs were given much effect to the glee of "*Green grow the rushes, oh!*" and the song of "*niddy noddy*" particularly; but the *original* music (if a want of originality in it will authorize that title) was not only indifferent, but extremely ill placed. The fight was admirably managed, and we must admire Messrs. Connor's, Duruset's, and Liston's horsemanship—"*and is it come to this.*" Though some slight disapprobation manifested itself, the piece was well received. The Duke of York was in the house.

DRURY LANE.

After *Adeline* had exhausted almost the whole stock of sympathy in the house, a new *Petit Comedy* in one act was performed for the first time under the title of LOVE IN HUMBLE LIFE. It is a simple affair of foreign texture; but our space will not admit of giving the plot in minute detail. *Roncevaltz* (MR. COOPER) a veteran hussar, loves *Christine* (Miss S. BOOTH) and has unknown to her promoted her fortune, but the girl is in love with *Carlitz* (Mr. KNIGHT) and cannot consent to marry him. *Carlitz*, however, arrives accidentally at the little country inn kept by *Christine*. She thinks him indifferent towards her, and out of revenge promises to give her hand to *Roncevaltz* in a month's time unless he should agree to cancel the agreement. In the mean time Christize finds herself mistaken as to Carlitz's affections---they prove their mutual love to each other.---Roncevaltz is informed of it. and generously sacrifices his own fond hopes to join the hands of the lovers. The dialogue is to the purpose---the acting excellent, Mr. Cooper gave full effect to the character of the worthy old soldier; Mr. Knight was quite at home as the Country Post Boy—and Miss S. Booth, made a pretty little hostess; success, therefore, attended the piece.

The House was not full.

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Theatre Royal, Covent Garden.

This Evening will be performed (2nd. time) a New Opera, called

MONTROSE;

Or, The Children of the Mist.

With new Scenery, Dresses, and Decorations. The Overture by Mr. Bishop, the rest of the Music by Mr. Bishop, Ware, &c.

Earl of Montrose, Mr. CONNOR,
Earl of Menteith, Mr. DURUSET,
Angus Macaulay, Mr. COMER,
Allan Macaulay, Mr. ABBOTT,
Evan Dhu, Mr. HUNT, Donald, Mr. TAYLOR,
Capt. Dalgetty, Mr. LISTON,
Marquis of Argyl, Mr. CHAPMAN,
Sir Duncan Campbell, Mr. EGERTON,
Colin, Mr. KING,
Ranald of the Mist, Mr. YATES,
Lewie, Master LONGHURST,
Children of the Mist—Officers of Argyle—Officers of Montrose.
Erorcht, Mrs. FAUCIT,
Annot Lyle, Miss STEPHENS.
Ellen, Mrs. BISHOP, Mause, Mrs. STERLING,

The following New Scenery will be exhibited. Act I.

A ROMANTIC GLEN IN THE HIGHLANDS.
The Dining Hall of Darlinwarich. An Apartment of the Castle.
The Hall of Audience in the Castle. ACT II.
The Castle of Inverara, with a distant View of Lochfine and Mountains.
The Anti-Room of the Castle.
Craigs and Rocks, the Abode of the Children of the Mist.
ACT III. Interior of a Hut. The Apartment of Annot Lyle.
LOCH LOCHY,
With the Encampment of Argyl.
The Gorge of the Mountains. A Wild Dell.
Interior of Loch Lochy. An Apartment in Loch Lochy.
The LARGE HALL in INVERLOCHY,

To conclude with, a Grand, and Comic Pantomime,

Harlequin & Mother Bunch;

Or, the Yellow Dwarf.

The characters the same as before.

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane,

KING LEAR.

King Lear, Mr KEAN,
Duke of Burgundy, Mr. DOBBS,
Duke of Cornwall, Mr. PENLEY,
Duke of Albany, Mr. THOMPSOE,
Earl of Glo'ster, Mr. BOMLEY,
Earl of Kent Mr POPE,
Edgar, Mr COOPER,
Edmund, Mr BARNARD,
Oswald, M. RUSSELL,
Knights, Messrs. Webster, Sheriff, Randall, &c. &c.
Captain of the Guard, Mr. READ,
Herald, Mr. Millmott, Page to Goneril, Miss Cooper,
Page to Regan, Miss Edwards,
Old Man, Mr. FOOTE, Edward, Mr Vining,
Ruffians, Messrs. Howell, and Taylor.
Goneril, Mrs. KNIGHT, Regan, Mrs EGERTON,
Cordelia, Miss EDMISTON,
Aranthe, Miss PHILLIPS,

After which will be produced (second timea) Petit Comedy, called

Love in Humble Life.

THE PRINCIPAL CHARACTERS BY
Mr. COOPER, Mr. KNIGHT,
and Miss S. BOOTH.

To-morrow, A Comedy, with Adeline, and Monsienr Tonson.